

In re: Mullaney et al.
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REMARKS

Please enter this amendment prior to examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

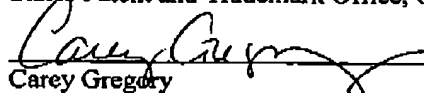


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 2745 at (703) 872-9314 on July 10, 2002.



Carey Gregory
Date of Signature: July 10, 2002

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Version With Markings to Show Changes

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claim 50 without prejudice.

Please replace Claims 51 and 59 with the following:

51. (Amended) [The terminal block of Claim 50] A telecommunications terminal block for making and breaking connections between a first telecommunications conductor, a second telecommunications conductor and a service wire, said terminal block comprising:

a housing having a first connector connected to the first telecommunications conductor and a second connector connected to the second telecommunications conductor mounted therein;

a first conductor in the housing, the first conductor being electrically connected to the first connector and having a service wire connector portion configured to receive the service wire;

a switch electrically connecting the first connector and the second connector, the switch having a first state wherein the first connector is electrically connected to the second connector and a second state wherein the first connector is electrically disconnected from the second connector, the switch comprising [wherein the switch comprises]:

a third connector mounted adjacent the second connector in the housing, the first connector being electrically connected to the third connector; and

a select module positioned over the second connector and the third connector, the select module having a first position electrically connecting the second connector and the third connector and a second position wherein the second connector and the third connector are not electrically connected.

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59. (Amended) [The terminal block of Claim 50] A telecommunications terminal block for making and breaking connections between a first telecommunications conductor, a second telecommunications conductor and a service wire, said terminal block comprising:

a housing having a first connector connected to the first telecommunications conductor and a second connector connected to the second telecommunications conductor mounted therein;

a first conductor in the housing, the first conductor being electrically connected to the first connector and having a service wire connector portion configured to receive the service wire;

a switch electrically connecting the first connector and the second connector, the switch having a first state wherein the first connector is electrically connected to the second connector and a second state wherein the first connector is electrically disconnected from the second connector; and

wherein the housing of the terminal block further comprises:

a base having a first portion and a second portion, the first connector and the first conductor being mounted in the first portion with the service wire connector portion extending from an upper surface of the base, the second connector being mounted in the second portion of the base;

a movably mounted service wire connector member positioned adjacent the upper surface of the base in the first portion, the service wire connector member including a service wire receiving passageway that receives a service wire for connection to the first conductor, the service wire connector member having a first position that provides access to an opening to the service wire receiving passageway to receive a service wire and a second position wherein a portion of the service wire receiving passageway passes through an opening in the service wire connector portion of the first conductor;

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a contact member electrically connected to the second connector and extending from the base of the housing of the terminal block and contacting the first conductor; and

an actuator positioned in the service wire connector member so as to allow the contact member to contact the first conductor in the first position of the service wire connector member and to break the contact between the contact member and the first conductor in the second position of the service wire connector member.

Please cancel Claims 64-68 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

71. (New) The terminal block of Claim 1 wherein the terminal block further comprises a chamber including an environmental sealant that protects the electrical connection of the first connector and the second connector.

72. (New) The terminal block of Claim 71 wherein the environmental sealant is a gel.

73. (New) The terminal block of Claim 27 wherein the terminal block further comprises a chamber including an environmental sealant that protects the electrical connection of the first conductor and the second conductor.

74. (New) The terminal block of Claim 73 wherein the environmental sealant is a gel.

75. (New) The terminal block of Claim 51 wherein the switch further comprises a chamber including an environmental sealant that protects the electrical connection of the first connector and the second connector.

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76. (New) The terminal block of Claim 75 wherein the environmental sealant is a gel.

77. (New) The terminal block of Claim 59 wherein the switch further comprises a chamber including an environmental sealant that protects the electrical connection of the first connector and the second connector.

78. (New) The terminal block of Claim 77 wherein the environmental sealant is a gel.

79. (New) The terminal block of Claim 61 wherein the housing further comprises a chamber including an environmental sealant, the electrical protection device being positioned in the chamber.

80. (New) The terminal block of Claim 79 wherein the environmental sealant is a gel.

81. (New) The terminal block of Claim 69 wherein the means for electrically connecting further comprises a chamber including an environmental sealant that protects the electrical connection of the first connector and the second connector.

82. (New) The terminal block of Claim 81 wherein the environmental sealant is a gel.

END